



MISSOURI TIMBER PRICE TRENDS

Jan.-March, 2009, Vol. 19 No. 1

Missouri Department of Conservation, Forestry Division

Statewide Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Veneer Veneer							
Walnut, Black	\$835	\$835	\$835	\$1,930	\$1,835	- Int. - MBF	1
Sawlogs							
Ash	\$110	\$110	\$110	-	-	10 Int. - MBF	1
Basswood	\$85	\$85	\$85	\$40	-	1 Int. - MBF	1
Eastern Redcedar	\$110	\$110	\$110	-	-	4 Int. - MBF	1
Hard Maple	\$125	\$110	\$115	\$60	\$110	10 Int. - MBF	2
Hickory	\$130	\$80	\$105	\$90	\$135	264 Int. - MBF	7
Mixed Hardwoods	\$170	\$65	\$110	\$105	\$260	672 Int. - MBF	5
Oak (mixed species)	\$240	\$95	\$185	\$145	\$165	635 Int. - MBF	10
Post Oak	\$130	\$80	\$125	\$130	\$180	237 Int. - MBF	6
Red oak (group)	\$210	\$80	\$135	\$130	\$205	2,419 Int. - MBF	10
S Yellow Pine	\$80	\$80	\$80	-	-	65 Int. - MBF	1
Shortleaf Pine	\$80	\$80	\$80	\$130	\$100	7 Int. - MBF	1
Walnut, Black	\$385	\$385	\$385	\$675	\$675	7 Int. - MBF	1
White oak (group)	\$210	\$80	\$125	\$120	\$205	516 Int. - MBF	9
Stave Logs							
Mixed Hardwoods	\$240	\$240	\$240	-	-	42 Int. - MBF	1
White oak (group)	\$315	\$285	\$295	\$435	\$290	40 Int. - MBF	2

North Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Sawlogs							
Mixed Hardwoods	\$95	\$70	\$85	\$75	\$105	491 Int. - MBF	2

Central Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
Veneer							
Walnut, Black	\$835	\$835	\$835	-	\$1,670	- Int. - MBF	1
Sawlogs							
Basswood	\$85	\$85	\$85	\$40	-	1 Int. - MBF	1
Hard Maple	\$125	\$125	\$125	\$60	\$150	3 Int. - MBF	1
Mixed Hardwoods	\$65	\$65	\$65	-	\$85	5 Int. - MBF	1
Oak (mixed species)	\$120	\$120	\$120	\$150	-	18 Int. - MBF	1
Red oak (group)						18 Int. - MBF	1

White oak (group)	\$200	\$200	\$200	\$115	\$165	53 Int. - MBF	1
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Stave Logs

Mixed Hardwoods	\$240	\$240	\$240	-	-	42 Int. - MBF	1
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Southwest Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
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Sawlogs

Oak (mixed species)	\$155	\$95	\$130	\$190	-	214 Int. - MBF	5
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Red oak (group)	\$135	\$135	\$135	-	-	13 Int. - MBF	1
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Southeast Stumpage Prices

	High	Low	Avg.	Last Qtr.	Last Yr.	Vol.	# of Rpts.
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Sawlogs

Ash	\$110	\$110	\$110	-	-	10 Int. - MBF	1
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Eastern Redcedar	\$110	\$110	\$110	-	-	4 Int. - MBF	1
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Hard Maple	\$110	\$110	\$110	-	-	7 Int. - MBF	1
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Hickory	\$130	\$80	\$105	\$90	\$135	264 Int. - MBF	7
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Mixed Hardwoods	\$170	\$110	\$170	\$100	\$295	176 Int. - MBF	2
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Oak (mixed species)	\$240	\$155	\$215	\$130	\$225	403 Int. - MBF	4
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Post Oak	\$130	\$80	\$125	\$130	\$180	237 Int. - MBF	6
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Red oak (group)	\$210	\$80	\$135	\$130	\$215	2,392 Int. - MBF	8
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S Yellow Pine	\$80	\$80	\$80	-	-	65 Int. - MBF	1
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Shortleaf Pine	\$80	\$80	\$80	\$130	\$100	7 Int. - MBF	1
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White oak (group)	\$210	\$80	\$115	\$110	\$225	464 Int. - MBF	8
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Stave Logs

White oak (group)	\$315	\$285	\$295	-	-	40 Int. - MBF	2
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Averages are based on received reports. Refer to the column headed “# of Rpts.” to get a gauge of how accurate the average prices may be. (“# of Rpts.” refers to the number of sales including a particular species and may sum to more than the number of sales.) Changes since last quarter and last year should be read with caution as the number of reports varies each year and quarter. This report can only be used as a general guide for determining market value of timber. General market and economic conditions, as well as local considerations such as accessibility, terrain, sale size, and tree size and quality also affect the price paid.

Please see the map on page 7 for a definition of reporting regions.

Note: All prices and volumes are reported in International ¼” MBF Scale. To convert to Int.-BF prices or volume, divide by 1,000. To convert volume from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, divide by 1.2. To convert prices from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, multiply by 1.2.

Foresters reported stumpage prices resulting from 27 timber sales containing 5,472 MBF located throughout the state.

Editor’s Note

Remember that one of the most valuable sources for information on log and timber markets is the local Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Forester or your Consulting Forester. Contact the nearest Forest District office for up-to-date, local advice. The Missouri Department of Conservation's Forestry Division, (573) 751-4115, will be happy to provide you with the name and address of the Resource Forester or MDC Regional Office nearest to you. You can locate a Consulting Forester by visiting the Mo. Consulting Forester's Association web site at: www.missouriforesters.com or by visiting the Private Land Assistance page of the MDC website <http://mdc.mo.gov/landown/> and clicking on the “Conservation Assistance Contractors” link.

Tom Treiman and John Tuttle, Editors

Note: A “sale” often includes several different species so the number of sales may be less than the “# of Rpts.” (number of reports) listed in the tables.

Tree Scale Conversion Factors

Sawlogs - Veneer Logs	Int'l = Doyle x 1.2
Pulpwood Pine	5,200 lbs/cord
Hardwood (hard)	5,600 lbs/cord
Hardwood (soft)	4,200 lbs/cord

Note: All prices and volumes are reported in International ¼” MBF Scale. To convert to Int.-BF prices or volume, divide by 1,000. To convert volume from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, divide by 1.2. To convert prices from Int.-MBF to Doyle MBF, multiply by 1.2.

News from Missouri

I made some sawmill visits this month and was saddened to hear the economic state of the forest products industry. I heard that #3a lumber was just bringing 10-15 cents per board foot and #2a is only bringing about 24 cents per board foot. Most mill owners said they were trying to avoid the production of grade lumber since they were losing money on every board they produced. Mill owners told me that the only products that they were producing which were making them some money were railroad ties and the selling of stave logs to the stave mills.

When will the market start to turn around? My answer to this question is that I do not know. I did hear USDA Chief Economist Joseph Glauber predict that in the last quarter of 2009, the US should start to see improvements in the economy. I hope he is right, and I hope the mill owners can survive financially until the turn around starts.

If you have any questions regarding the forest products industry you can give me a call. John Tuttle (573)522-4115 ext 3304

Downturn Hits Lumber

U.S. lumber demand is expected to fall this year to the lowest point in history before starting a slow recovery next year, according to an industry forecast released by the Western Wood Products Association. They predict lumber demand will slide to just 28.9 billion board feet — a 30 percent decline from 2008 totals and a 55 percent decline from 2005, when the industry reached an all-time high of 64.3 billion board feet.

That decline — the steepest in history — is the result of a continued weak home construction market, which typically accounts for more than 45 percent of the lumber used each year. An estimated 432,000 homes will be started in 2009, less than half of the total from last year and just one-fifth of 2005 totals.

The home construction market is expected to turn around in 2010, with an initial forecast indicating home starts will jump to 553,000, increasing lumber consumption to 30 billion board feet. Housing starts are not expected to exceed 1 million units until 2012.

U.S. lumber production is expected to fall to 21.8 billion board feet this year

— down 25 percent — increasing slightly in 2010 to 22.4 billion board feet.

Source: Puget Sound Business Journal

UN: Financial Crisis Puts Pressure on Forests

The global economic turmoil has resulted in reduced demand for wood, shrinking investments in forest industries and forest management, according to the United Nations "State of the World's Forests" report.

Stronger forest management and greater investments in science and technology are needed to handle the dual challenges posed by the financial crisis and climate change, advises the report, which is issued by the UN Food and Agriculture Organization once every two years.

"Adapting forestry institutions to rapid changes in the larger environment is a major challenge," says Jan Heino of FAO's Forestry Department.

The report expresses concern that the economic downturn could lead governments to water down ambitious green targets or defer key policy decisions related to climate change mitigation and adaptation as they focus on bringing in funds. Initiatives for reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation that are dependent on international financial transfers could also face problems.

"Of particular importance is the need to re-invent public sector forestry agencies that have been slow in adapting to changing customer needs," Heino said.

The report warns that contraction of formal economic sectors can open opportunities for expansion of the informal sector and could lead to more illegal logging. But there are also opportunities arising from the current crisis. Increased attention on "green development" could provide a new direction to the development of the forest sector. Planting trees, increased investments in sustainable forest management, and active promotion of wood in green building practices and renewable energy will all become integral parts of "green development".

A separate FAO report last week found that 10 million new green jobs can be created by investing in sustainable forest management. "As more jobs are lost due to the current economic

downturn, sustainable forest management could become a means of creating millions of green jobs, thus helping to reduce poverty and improve the environment. Since forests and trees are vital storehouses of carbon, such an investment could also make a major contribution to climate change mitigation and adaptation efforts," said Heino.

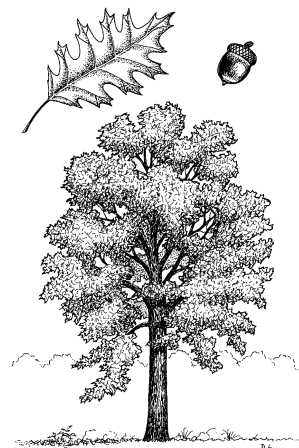
The near future of forestry in North America will depend on how quickly the region reverses the recent economic downturn and its impact on the demand for wood and wood products, especially in the U.S. The forest sector will need to address challenges of climate change, including increasing frequency and severity of forest fires and damage by invasive pest species.

Forest cover in the region is stable. North America accounted for two percent of annual global deforestation from 2000 to 2005, although the rate of loss has been decreasing. Most of the loss was in Mexico, attributed mainly to agricultural expansion and unsustainable logging, while the United States reported a small net gain in forest area for the period.

But the report warns that climate change is threatening forest health. The intensity and frequency of forest fires have increased in both Canada and the United States, fueled by prolonged drought attributed to climate change and successful fire control programs that have inadvertently increased the amount of combustible material.

The loss of trees is releasing more carbon than that from forest fires in spite of efforts to salvage the timber, which continues to store carbon.

Source: Environment News Service





Wildfire in Missouri

A combination of dry weather and wind make early spring the heart of wildfire season in Missouri. Across the state, thousands of acres of forest and grassland will burn. Most of these fires will be caused by human negligence or malicious arson.

In days gone by, people often set fires to convert woodlands to pasture for cattle. Today, improper or unsafe debris burning is the leading cause of wildfire in Missouri. Most residents who burn debris never intend for their fire to get out of control, but in 2006, more than 1,500 escaped debris fires burned more than 17,000 acres of the Show-Me State.

Consider these simple alternatives to burning

- Compost twigs and small limbs to produce great organic matter for your vegetable and flower gardens.
- Chip larger branches into mulch for gardens, trees and landscaped areas.
- Use wood chippers to eliminate tree branches and other debris. Haul debris to designated dump sites in your area.
- Cut fallen limbs for use or sale as firewood.
- Build—don't burn—brush piles. They make great wildlife habitat and will naturally decay in two to five years.

If you must burn, do it safely!

- Check with your local fire department to see if open burning is permitted or if you need a burn permit.
- Prior to the burn, contact your local forestry office or rural fire department and tell them your plans—what time you plan to start burning, how long you plan to burn, and what (brush piles, leaves, etc.) you will burn.
- Check the weather. Avoid burning on dry, windy days. Pick an overcast day when winds are calm and humidity is high. Try to burn before 10:00 a.m. or after 3:00 p.m. This is when winds are usually calmest and humidity is highest.

- Keep brush piles small (about 5 feet by 5 feet), and burn them in open fields when snow is on the ground or in the late spring after the grass has greened up.
- Avoid burning piles under overhanging tree limbs, utility lines or close to buildings.
- Cover your debris pile with a waterproof tarp. After a rain, when the surrounding vegetation is wet, remove the plastic and you'll be ready to burn. This helps reduce the chance of your fire spreading to surrounding vegetation.
- Before you burn, gather rakes, wet burlap sacks and other firefighting tools. Have a source of water close by. This will help you take quick action should your fire start to get out of control. Call the fire department immediately should a fire escape.
- Stay with your burn pile until it is completely extinguished. Drown ashes with water and stir them with a shovel or rake to make sure there are no hot embers left smoldering.
- Check your fire the next day . . . just to be sure.

Protect Your Home from Wildfire

Reduce the fuels around your home and in your yard. To do this, create a well-irrigated, open space at least 30 feet out from all sides of your house. Keep this space obstacle-free to allow fire suppression equipment room to maneuver should an emergency occur. In the areas closest to your house, keep mulch moist and ornamental shrubs pruned below 18 inches. Use non-combustible building materials for patios and decks. Stack firewood at least 30 feet away.

In your yard, plant fire resistant species—such as oak, hickory, maple, dogwood and redbud—and remove flammable plants, such as junipers, pines and cedars. Space trees and shrubs at least twice as wide as their height, and prune trees so their lowest branches are 6 to 10 feet above the ground. Keep your grass green and mowed, and move dead vegetation at least 30 feet away from your home or any other building.

Missouri Timber Price Trends tracks market prices for Stumpage. Reports on the Stumpage Market are received from Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Foresters and private consulting foresters. Stumpage refers to timber sold on the stump and does not reflect delivered mill prices. These reports should serve as a general guide to track stumpage prices. Landowners should not use this report to replace a timber inventory and marketing assistance as methods of conducting a sale. Missouri Department of Conservation Resource Foresters will be able to provide information on current, local market conditions. Details of all private sales and delivered prices are kept confidential.

Missouri Department of Conservation

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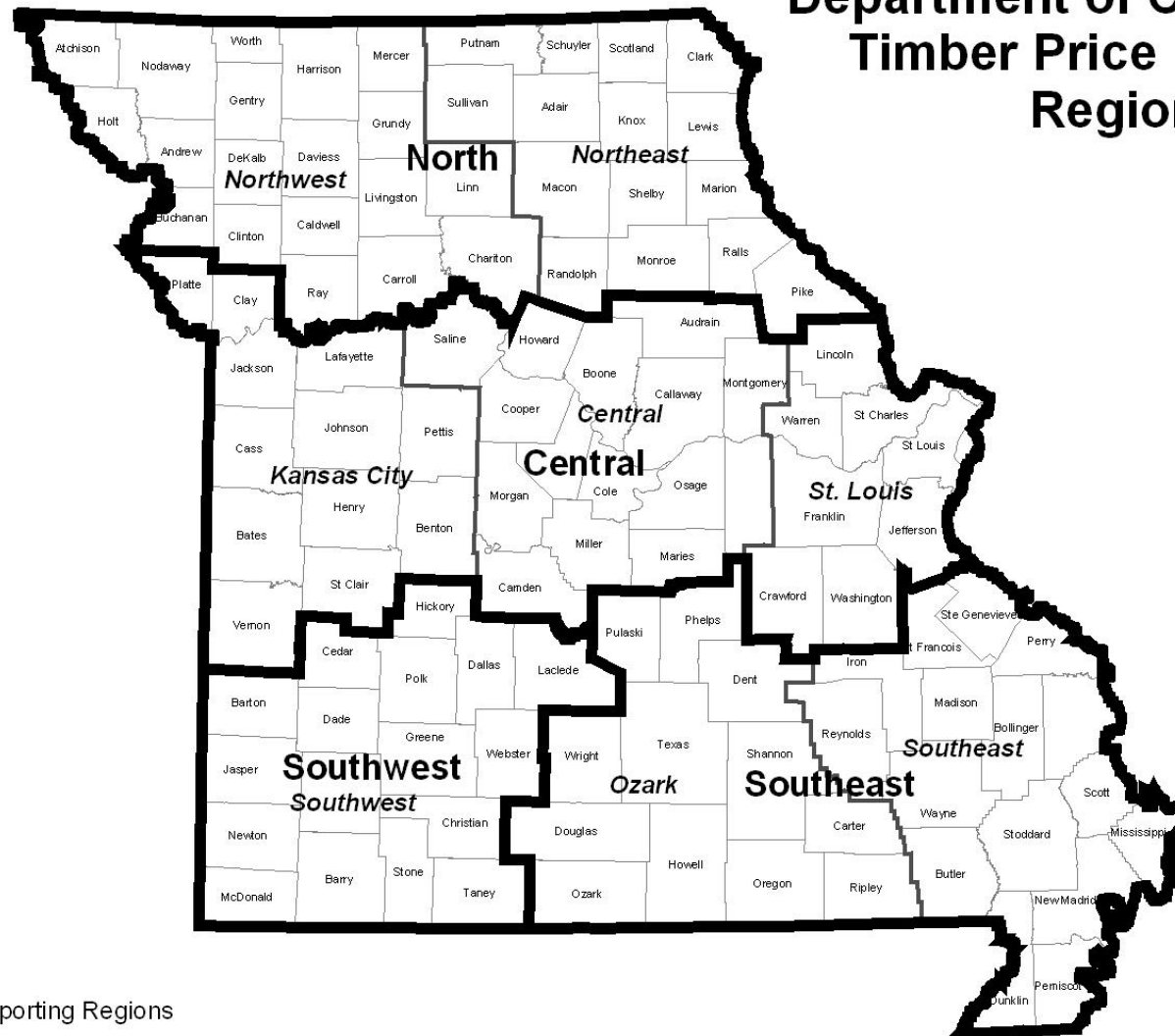
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Greg Hoss, Supervisor x 22

Missouri Department of Conservation Timber Price Reporting Regions



Legend

-  Price Reporting Regions
-  MDC Regions
-  County Boundaries



Missouri Department of Conservation
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Return Service Requested